

❑ Programs for Youth

What initiatives for youths have been facilitated the City?

The School Liaison & Youth Outreach Office facilitates the following programs. They can be reached at 817-392-6129.

- **Youth Advisory Board** - Advises City Council on issues important to and affecting youth in the City of Fort Worth, gathers youth concerns to help identify possible solutions, and helps youth connect to services that benefit them. For more information contact the Community Relations Department at 817-392-8444.
- **Youth Engagement** – Encourages youth to be engaged in the life of the community through volunteer involvement with public and non-profit organizations.
- **Early Childhood Resource Centers** - Each resource center offers training to parents of children from ages birth to five, to the children's informal caregivers, and area child care staff to provide intentional early language and literacy experiences for the children in the neighborhoods. The goal is for young children to develop early literacy skills so they can be successful when they begin school. For more information contact the Community Relations Department at 817-392-7531.
- **Afterschool Programs** – Fort Worth Afterschool programs have formed through joint initiatives between the City of Fort Worth and the Fort Worth Independent School District (FWISD). These programs currently exist in 58 elementary and middle schools. For more information contact FWISD at 817-492-7945. See map on Afterschool programs for locations.
- **Development Asset Model** – Provides information to organizations and individuals about the 40 Developmental Assets Model, a comprehensive listing of values and experiences that help young people become healthy, caring and responsible adults.

What programs are available for Fort Worth children and teens?

A broad variety of programs are available for Fort Worth's children and teens. A summary of these programs is provided below. More detailed information about each of these programs can be found in the appropriate section of this Guide.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW	CONTACT
Health and Social Services	
WIC (Women Infant & Child) Program – Health screening and supplemental food.	Tarrant County Health Department 817-321-5400
Teen Asset Project – Gives youth the opportunity to be active participants in improving their lives.	Fort Worth Public Health 817-871-6272
Head Start – 37 centers provide childcare for low-income families. Age(s) newborn to 5 years	Child Care Associates 817-838-8422
Children's Programs – Health and safety topics, exercise, nutrition, child safety seats, bicycle helmets, physical growth, and many others.	Fort Worth Public Health Outreach Division 817-871-7530 817-871-6200
Teen Videofest -- Teens produce videos on teen health issues.	Tarrant County Health Department 817-321-5318

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<p>Teen Education – Numerous city- and county-sponsored presentations and classes on topics such as sexuality, alcohol, and tobacco</p>	<p>Fort Worth Public Health 817-871-7530</p> <p>Tarrant County Health Department 817-321-5379</p>
<p>Teen Tutoring</p>	<p>“Our Place” Teen Center Fort Worth Public Library 817-871-7701</p>
<p>During the school year: After-school child development</p> <p>During school breaks: Camps</p>	<p>Community Centers</p> <p><i>Call the Parks and Community Services Department to find the center in your neighborhood</i></p> <p>817-871-PARK (7275)</p>
<p>Youth Late-Night Program:</p> <p>Various activities for youth ages 13 & up.</p> <p>Wed – Thurs: 3 p.m. – 11 p.m.;</p> <p>Fri – Sat: 4 p.m. – midnight;</p> <p>Sun: 2 p.m. – 10 p.m.</p> <p>Hours vary by Community Center. Call the Community Center for more information.</p>	<p>Como Community Center 817-871-5030</p> <p>Worth Heights Community Center 817-871-8722</p> <p>Martin Luther King Community Center 817-871-5960</p> <p>Northside Community Center 817-871-5822</p> <p>Sycamore Community Center 817-871-7675</p>
<p>Learning Centers and Computer Labs – Books and computers are available for youth to enhance learning.</p>	<p>Community Centers</p> <p><i>Contact the Parks and Community Services Department to find the center in your neighborhood</i></p> <p>817-871-PARKS (7275)</p>
<p>Recreational, Educational and Cultural Programs –Various programs are provided to help young people improve their lives.</p>	<p>Community Centers</p> <p><i>Contact the Parks and Community Service Department to find the center in your neighborhood</i></p> <p>817-871-PARKS (7275)</p>
<p>Summer Mobile Recreation Program</p>	<p>Ages (5-13) Registration Required 817-871-5700</p>
<p>Golf – Clinics and associations (leagues)</p>	<p>Call any municipal golf course for information or www.fortworthgolf.org or Call 817-871-PARKS</p>
<p>Swimming Lessons</p>	<p>Athletics Division 817-871-7670</p> <p><i>Call any municipal swimming pool between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day</i></p>

PROGRAM OVERVIEW	CONTACT
Sports Leagues – Soccer, basketball, flag football, softball	<p>Athletics Division 817-871-7690</p> <p><i>Call the center in your neighborhood for specific programming information</i></p>
Tennis Lessons	<p>McLeland Tennis Center 817-921-5134</p>
Nature Center & Refuge – Various educational programs	<p>9601 Fossil Ridge Road Fort Worth, TX 76135 www.fwnaturecenter.org 817-237-1111</p>
Fort Worth Botanic Garden – Various educational programs and special events	<p>3220 Botanic Garden Boulevard Fort Worth, TX 76107 817-871-7682 www.fwbgo.org</p>
Fort Worth Zoo – Various educational programs and special events	<p>1989 Colonial Parkway Fort Worth, TX 76110 817-759-7555 www.fortworthzoo.com</p>
Log Cabin Village – Various educational opportunities and special events	<p>2100 Log Cabin Village Lane Fort Worth, TX 76109 817-926-5881 www.logcabinvillage.org</p>
Fort Worth Herd – Various educational opportunities	<p>Fort Worth Herd 131 E. Exchange, Suite 215 Fort Worth, TX 76106 817-336-HERD (4373) www.fortworthherd.com</p>
Libraries	
Children's Services – Weekly story times and other activities; Summer Reading Program	<p>Fort Worth Public Library 500 W. 3rd Street Fort Worth, TX 76102 817-871-READ or <i>call the library in your neighborhood for specific programming options and times</i> www.fortworthlibrary.org</p>
Youth Services – Gatherings, games, speakers, and activities	<p>Fort Worth Public Library 817-871-READ or <i>call the library in your neighborhood for specific programming options and times</i> www.fortworthlibrary.org</p>

PROGRAM OVERVIEW	CONTACT
Safety – Police and Fire	
Comin' Up Program – A multidisciplinary program with the goal of decreasing the level of gang violence.	Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Fort Worth 1201 W. Lancaster, Suite. 205 Fort Worth, TX 76102 817-877-3729

School Safety

How does the Police Department help ensure safety in city schools?

Working in partnership with various school districts in Fort Worth, the Police Department provides an officer for every middle school and high school. The department also furnishes police cars, closed-circuit cameras, metal detectors and cameras for buses. In addition to providing security, officers assigned to the schools help staff resolve situations before they become crime problems.

Teen Curfew and Teen Court

Do teenagers in Fort Worth have a curfew?

Yes, the curfew is a measure to prevent teenagers from committing crimes or becoming victims of crime. Curfew hours are:

- After 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday
- After midnight Friday and Saturday

The curfew ends at 6 a.m. seven days a week.

Fines up to \$500 may be issued for curfew violation.

What is Teen Court?

This City program began in 1987, with 100 teens appearing before jurors and being defended by attorneys their same ages, 12 through 18 years old. In a typical year, more than 1,000 adolescents opt to appear in Teen Court instead of paying fines for tickets received for riding a bicycle with no helmet, staying out past curfew, speeding and other offenses. In lieu of fines, defendants, who must plead guilty, “serve time” by doing community service work with various nonprofit organizations. In addition to their community service work, defendants must pay court costs and an administrative fee.